

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 ACDA-19 NIC-01 PM-07

NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 INR-11 PRS-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01

OMB-01 DRC-01 /114 W

----- 021492

Z 171800Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 8858

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC //DI-5// IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T NICOSIA 1441

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT CY

SUBJECT: COUP: DIMITRIOU AND DENKTASH

REF: NICOSIA 1417

1. DIMITRIOU SAYS HE SENT FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICER TO DENKTASH WITH MESSAGE THAT DIMITRIOU HAD IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO CONVEY, WISHED TO MEET HIM. DENKTASH DUCKED OUT, CONFERRED WITH SOMEBODY, RETURNED TO SAY HE HAD TO CONSULT HIS MINISTERS. WHEN EMISSARY MADE CLEAR THAT DIMITRIOU WILLING TO MEET ANYWHERE, PROPOSED TO CALL ON DENKTASH IN TURKISH SECTOR, DENKTASH AGAIN RETIRED, CAME BACK AGAIN SAYING HE HAD TO CONSULT, WOULD TRY TO GIVE DIMITRIOU ANSWER BY 5 PM. DIMITRIOU WAITED (AT LEDRA PALACE HOTEL JUST IN GREEK SECTOR) UNTIL 5:45, SENT EMISSARY BACK. DENKTASH PERSONALLY CAME OUT, SAID MEETING STILL PROCEEDING, APOLOGIZED FOR

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HAVING KEPT DIMITRIOU WAITING, SAID HE HAD NOT REALIZED HE

WAS STANDING BY, PROMISED ANSWER BY 9 AM TOMORROW.

2. DIMITRIOU ASKED THAT USG DO WHAT IT CAN TO PERSUADE
TURKS TO MEET.

3. COMMENT: DIMITRIOU SEEMED ELATED WITH HIS EFFORT, DID
NOT EXPRESS ANNOYANCE AT DELAY, HOPES TO SEE DENKTASH
TOMORROW. WE ASSUME DENKTASH (AND TURKISH EMBASSY) MUST
HAVE BEEN ASTOUNDED BY UNPRECEDENTED GREEK OFFER. IF INHAN'S
ATTITUDE THIS MORNING ANY INDICATOR (SEPTTEL), CHANCES OF
MEETING PROBABLY LESS THAN EVEN, BUT VERY WILLINGNESS OF
SAMPSON REGIME MAY BE GIVING ANKARA SOME CAUSE FOR REFLECTION.

4. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO HOLD DOWN DIMITRIOU'S ALMOST
EMBARRASSING FRIENDLINESS, BUT ASSUME THIS EVOLUTION WORTH
THE CANDLE SINCE, IF ANKARA REMAINS CONVINCED IT CANNOT
TOLERATE CONTINUANCE OF PRESENT REGIME AND ATHENS
UNWILLING TO BACK AWAY, WE HAVE RECIPE FOR WAR. WE ARE SENDING
BY SEPTTEL OUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USG STRATEGY IN PRESENT
CRITICAL IMPASSE.

5. UNLESS WASHINGTON INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE, OUR INSTINCT
IS NOT RPT NOT TO DO ANYTHING IN RESPONSE TO DIMITRIOU
REQUEST PARA TWO, TO AVOID DRAWING USG INTO MIDDLE. END
COMMENT.
DAVIES

SECRET

NNN

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